

SUMMARY

BLOOMINGTON COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2005 AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF CITY HALL AT SHOWERS, 401 NORTH MORTON STREET, BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA

Roll Call

Members present: Robert Bent, Susan Brackney, Keith Clay, Christine Glaser, John Hamilton, George Huntington, Cairril Mills, Darryl Neher, Dave Rollo, Catherine Stafford, John West, Toby Strout

Staff present: Danise Alano, Asst. Director of Economic Development
Kären Sullivan, Intern, Office of the Mayor – BCOS
Kate Mobley, Intern, Office of the Mayor – BCOS

Approval of Minutes (October 25th, 2005)

Vote was taken; passed unanimously.

The minutes will now reflect actions taken by BCOS, not general discussion.

Public Comment

The Commission agreed that there should only be one public comment period during each meeting and that the public comment period should be during the early portion of agenda. There will be a twelve (12) minute time limit for the public comment period and each speaker will be limited to three (3) minutes of speaking time. The public comment period is meant to establish a collaborative dialogue between the public and the Commission. The Chair of the Commission will facilitate the dialogue during the public comment period and during the meeting. The public will also have the ability to make comments online via the BCOS website once the website has the ability to accept public comment. For those members of the public that do not have access to the internet, they will be able to make their comments known via the phone. Staff will include public comments collected online and via the phone in the “Reports from Staff” item of the agenda.

Reports from Task Groups

A. Mission (George Huntington and John West)

The group presented drafts of three different mission statements and will forward these drafts electronically to the rest of the Commission. Members of the Commission will submit comments to the group via email by November 15, 2005. The group will combine the comments to create a synthesized mission statement which will reflect the comments submitted and distribute the synthesized statement to the Commission by November 29, 2005. The synthesized statement will also be available online for public comment after

November 29. It is a goal of the Commission to approve a mission statement during the next Commission meeting.

B. Process/Implementation (Dave Rollo, Keith Clay, John Hamilton, Cairril Mills, Christine Glaser)

The group presented its ideas for three goals that the Commission should have for 2006,

1. Issue a Report
2. Raise Awareness
3. Establish One Concrete Behavioral Change Within the Citizens of Bloomington

The group also recommended that the Commission should use the word “challenges” rather than “problems” when discussing opportunities to make Bloomington more sustainable. The group discussed the importance of using the Natural Step Guiding Principles and Christine Glaser will be forwarding information about the Natural Step Guiding Principles to the Commission.

C. Indicators (Darryl Neher, Susan Brackney, Catherine Stafford)

The group made a PowerPoint presentation about the importance of having sustainability indicators and how the indicators should be established for Bloomington, in particular about how the public should be involved in establishing the set of indicators used by the Commission. The presentation included a timeline and the suggestion of conducting focus groups to gauge the public’s thought on what the indicators should be. The indicator groups will continue to work on the indicator project with the feedback gathered from the Commission and the public. There will be an agenda item at the next meeting for the group to further discuss the indicators and the focus groups.

All Committees will continue working on their tasks with the feedback and comments gathered from the meeting.

Reports from Staff

The next BCOS meeting will be held at the Monroe County Public Library on Tuesday, December 13 from 6:00pm to 7:30pm. Please send Danise anything that needs to be included in that meeting by December 6.

The BCOS website can be found at: <http://www.bloomington.in.gov/boards.php> or by accessing the City website (www.bloomington.in.gov) clicking on “Boards and Commissions” (under City Government) and then “Commission on Sustainability”.

Public Comment

There should be a report from the Environmental Commission during one of the BCOS meetings in the near future so the two groups can learn more about each others mission and projects.

Additional Business

There will be time allotments for discussion topics on the next meeting's agenda.
There will be an agenda item on the December agenda for a discussion on BCOS officers.

Adjournment

Vote was taken; passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m...

Respectfully Submitted,
Kären Sullivan, Intern, Office of the Mayor

Unanimously approved December 13, 2005.